

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 5 in the specification with the following paragraph:

In order to achieve the above-described object, in a first aspect of the invention, a hologram recording method comprises irradiating an optical recording medium with a signal light beam and a reference ~~light~~ light beam which has a predetermined shape and intensity on the optical recording medium corresponding to an intensity distribution of the signal light beam on the optical recording medium.